

CANADA: Dry weather dominated the Prairies, aiding spring grain and oilseed harvesting in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Above-normal temperatures (averaging 1-3 degrees C above normal, with highs reaching the lower 30's degrees C in central Saskatchewan and the southwest) also aided maturation. In Manitoba, harvest was slowly resuming, following last week's heavy rain, with sprouting reportedly becoming a problem for crops in swath during the downpours. Across the Prairies, temperatures dropped to near or below freezing at most locations, helping to dry down standing grains and oilseeds. In eastern Canada, soaking rain (25-50 mm or more) swept across the summer crop belts in Ontario and Quebec, maintaining unfavorably wet conditions for immature corn and soybeans. Temperatures averaged near to slightly above normal, increasing the risk of disease and pest damage. During August, a drying trend that began at mid-month aided Prairie spring crop development and helped to push the crops toward maturity. On August 31, however, an early freeze in northeastern growing areas may have caused localized damage to immature canola. In Ontario and Quebec, mild, showery weather slowed final winter wheat harvests and hindered corn and soybean development.